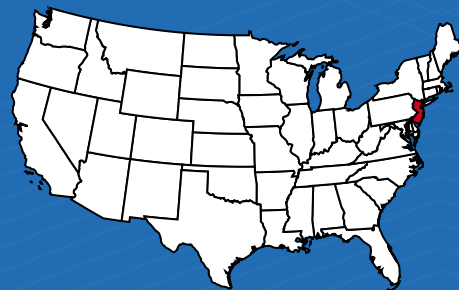




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THE NAVAL HISTORY OF NEW JERSEY



SHIPS



USS New Jersey (BB 62)

Commissioned in 1943, the battleship USS New Jersey (BB 62) spent her early days fighting in the Pacific during World War II. Her first action as a flagship was a bold two-day surface and air strike by her task force against the supposedly impregnable Japanese fleet base on Truk in the Carolines. She received nine battle stars for World War II, four for the Korean War, and two for Vietnam. She also earned the Navy Unit Commendation for Vietnam service. USS New Jersey was decommissioned in 1969. Recommissioned on Aug. 6, 1981, she served off Lebanon after the attack on the U.S. Marine Corps barracks. Decommissioned again on Feb. 8, 1991, she missed the Persian Gulf War, and is currently a museum ship at Bayonne, NJ.

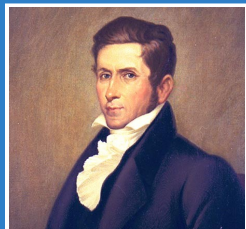


At least 30 ships have been named after the state of New Jersey, its cities, places, and people.

Bainbridge I (Brigantine), 1842
USS Barnegat (AVP 10), 1941
USS Bayonne (PF 21), 1945
USS Belet (APD 109), 1945
USS Bristol I (DD 453), 1941
USS Bristol II (DD 857), 1945
USS Camden, 1917
USS Cape May, 1918
USS Compton (DD 705), 1944
USS Corson (AVP 37), 1944
USS Halsey I (DLG 23), 1963
USS Kearny (DD 432), 1940
USS Lakewood Victory, 1944
USS Mercer I (ScStr), 1918
USS Monmouth County, 1944

New Jersey I (Battleship No. 16), 1906
USS New Jersey II (BB 62), 1943
Newark I (C 1), 1891
USS Newark II (S. P. 266), 1917
Princeton I (Screw Steamer), 1843
Princeton II (ScStr), 1852
Princeton III (Gbt), 1898
USS Princeton IV (CV 23), 1943
USS Princeton V (CV 37), 1945
USS Princeton VI (CG 59), 1989
Raritan I (Frigate), 1843
USS Sussex II (AK 213), 1947
Trenton I (ScStr), 1877
USS Trenton II (CL 11), 1924
USS Trenton III (LPD 14), 1971

PEOPLE



Mahlon Dickerson Secretary of the Navy

Born in Hanover, NJ, Mahlon Dickerson became Secretary of the Navy in July 1834. His tenure was marked by increased influence on the part of the Board of Naval Commissioners, the completion of the new steamship Fulton, II and slow progress toward launching an expedition to explore the Antarctic and Pacific. Dickerson also served as Governor of New Jersey from 1815-1817.



William Bainbridge Commodore

Born in Princeton, NJ, William Bainbridge went to sea as a Philadelphia merchantman at the age of 15. In September of 1812, he was given command of the frigate Constitution, took her to sea on the second of her War of 1812 cruises, and destroyed HMS Java in battle in December of 1812. For the rest of the decade he was commander of naval forces in Boston. Later, he became Commandant of the Boston Navy Yard, served as a naval commissioner in 1825-1828, and then was Commandant of the Philadelphia Navy Yard.



William F. Halsey Admiral

Born in Elizabeth, NJ, William Halsey graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1904. He was awarded the Navy Cross and received the Ribbon for the Presidential Unit Citation awarded to the USS Enterprise in 1942, the first carrier to be so honored. Shortly after his promotion to commander-in-chief of the Third Fleet in 1944, Halsey was promoted to five-star fleet admiral (one of only four men to have held that rank) in December 1945.

PLACES



Did You Know?

In 1787, New Jersey became the third state to ratify the U.S. Constitution and the first state to sign the Bill of Rights.



Lakehurst Maxfield Field

Lakehurst Maxfield Field, formerly known as Naval Air Engineering Station Lakehurst, is the naval component of Joint Base McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst, a U.S. Air Force-managed joint base. Lakehurst's chief mission is to conduct advanced research and development programs in support of air-platform operations worldwide.



Naval Weapons Station Earle, NJ

Naval Weapons Station (NWS) Earle, NJ, provides ordnance for all Atlantic Fleet Carrier and Expeditionary Strike Groups and supports strategic Department of Defense ordnance requirements. NWS Earle also maintains the Navy's premier ordnance transshipment facility to sustain the fleet, enable the warfighter, and support the family.